

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication in the Office Action that claims 2, 4-6, 8-10, and 12 contain allowable subject matter.

The claims have been amended to recite only subject matter indicated as allowable in the office action, as follows:

Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 2.

Claim 3 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 4, and claim 6 has been amended to depend from claim 3.

Claim 5 has been placed in independent form.

Claim 7 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 8, and claim 10 has been amended to depend from claim 7.

Claim 9 has been placed in independent form.

Claim 11 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 12.

Claims 2, 4, 8 and 12 have been canceled.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Date: October 30, 2003

JEL/DWW/att

Attorney Docket No. L7016.01136

STEVENS DAVIS, MILLER & MOSHER, L.L.P.

1615 L Street, N.W., Suite 850

P.O. Box 34387

Washington, D.C. 20043-4387

Telephone: (202) 785-0100

Facsimile: (202) 408-5200

Respectfully submitted,

  
James E. Ledbetter

Registration No. 28,732